

rice to the U.N. World Food Program for use in the affected region. The United States Department of Defense and the United States Agency for International Development have established regional coordination centers in Bangkok, Thailand, and in Colombo, Sri Lanka. These centers will help coordinate the massive U.S. relief efforts.

In addition to the hundreds of U.S. embassy and USAID mission staff who are now dedicated to the response to this disaster in their respective countries, USAID disaster assistance response team members and other U.S. assistance team members are already on the ground and moving into the affected countries.

Of course, all of us want to advise our constituents, what can Americans do? Government officials on the ground are advising Americans wishing to offer support in the relief effort to focus on cash donations as opposed to shipments of used clothing, canned goods, or other commodities. While all assistance is greatly appreciated, cash donations are proving to be the most helpful form of assistance for tsunami victims for the following reasons: cash is the fastest and most direct way to get assistance to specific affected areas through nongovernmental and charitable organizations that are established and respected in the disaster response field. The cost of shipping these types of goods exceeds the value of the goods themselves, and many of these goods may not be culturally appropriate or timely in their arrival. Cash will also be used to help the purchase of goods on the ground in the affected areas in order to help jump start the local economies which were so severely impacted by the tsunami.

At this time, unless there is further response and there is, thank goodness, from Congressman EHLERS.

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I just wanted to mention one point which I did not include, a very practical point for anyone who is in an area that might suffer a tsunami. There is a very natural warning system that nature provides, but it is very short term and that is before a tsunami, before the big waves roll in, the water recedes, not always, but almost always, and that is precisely what happened in this case. In fact, that killed more people because they did not recognize it. Any time one is on the coast and you see the water receding for some unexplained reason, head for high ground. That is your first warning. But, in fact, what happened, all the fish were left stranded on the shore, people rushed out, and especially children rushed out to grab the fish because obviously they need the food and they were out there beyond where they should have been when the water hit. They had no chance of survival whatsoever.

So there is one good warning system every person in every country should be aware of, in case you are ever on shore, you see the water running out, you run in, and head for high ground as fast as you can.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Again, Mr. Speaker, we appreciate so much the gentleman's practical advice, his expertise, and his obvious compassion for the people of south Asia.

As we conclude, I certainly want to say God bless our troops, and we will never forget September 11.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. LEWIS of Georgia) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Ms. PELOSI, for 5 minutes, today.
 Ms. WOOLSEY, for 5 minutes, today.
 Ms. LEE, for 5 minutes, today.
 Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, for 5 minutes, today.
 Mr. BACA, for 5 minutes, today.
 Mr. DEFazio, for 5 minutes, today.
 Mr. FILNER, for 5 minutes, today.
 Mr. FARR, for 5 minutes, today.
 Mr. MOORE of Kansas, for 5 minutes, today.
 Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, for 5 minutes, today.
 Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD, for 5 minutes, today.
 Mr. POMEROY, for 5 minutes, today.
 Ms. WATERS, for 5 minutes, today.
 Ms. ESHOO, for 5 minutes, today.
 Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, for 5 minutes, today.
 Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.
 Mr. BROWN of Ohio, for 5 minutes, today.
 Mr. HINOJOSA, for 5 minutes, today.
 Mr. EMANUEL, for 5 minutes, today.
 Mr. TOWNS, for 5 minutes, today.
 Mrs. JONES of Ohio, for 5 minutes, today.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 11, I move that the House do now adjourn in memory of the late Honorable ROBERT T. MATSUI.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 25 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Thursday, January 6, 2005, at 11 a.m., in memory of the late Honorable ROBERT T. MATSUI of California.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AFTER SINE DIE ADJOURNMENT OF THE 108TH CONGRESS 2D SESSION AND FOLLOWING PUBLICATION OF THE FINAL EDITION OF THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD OF THE 108TH CONGRESS

APPOINTMENT BY THE SPEAKER AFTER SINE DIE ADJOURNMENT

Pursuant to section 1238(b)(3) of the Floyd D. Spence National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2001 (22

U.S.C. 7002), amended by Division P of the Consolidated Appropriations Resolution, 2003 (P.L. 108-7), and the order of the House of December 8, 2003, the Speaker reappointed the following Member on the part of the House to the United States-China Economic and Security Review Commission:

Mr. Larry Wortzel, Alexandria, VA, for a term to expire December 31, 2006.

COMMUNICATION FROM HON. NANCY PELOSI, DEMOCRATIC LEADER, AFTER SINE DIE ADJOURNMENT

ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH CONGRESS,
 OFFICE OF THE DEMOCRATIC LEADER,
 December 31, 2004.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker of the House, House of Representatives,
 Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to section 1238(b)(3) of the Floyd D. Spence National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2001 (P.L. 106-398), I hereby appoint Mr. Michael Wessel of Virginia, for a term of two years, to the United States-China Security Review Commission.

Best regards,

NANCY PELOSI.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

1. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting a letter indicating the President's concurrence with Congress in the designation of funds provided as part of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, FY 2005 (H.R. 4818) as an emergency requirement to support the African Union security force in Darfur, as well as to construct a mail irradiation facility in Washington, D.C.; to the Committee on Appropriations.

2. A letter from the Secretary of the Air Force, Department of Defense, transmitting notification that the Program Acquisition Unit Cost and the Average Procurement Unit Cost for the Advanced Extremely High Frequency (AEHF) Program exceeds the Acquisition Program Baseline values by more than 15 percent, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 2433(e)(1); to the Committee on Armed Services.

3. A letter from the Principal Deputy Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting authorization of Captain Gerald R. Beaman, United States Navy, to wear the insignia of the grade of rear admiral (lower half) in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

4. A letter from the President and Chairman, Export-Import Bank of the United States, transmitting a report on transactions involving U.S. exports to Egypt pursuant to Section 2(b)(3) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945, as amended, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 635(b)(3)(i); to the Committee on Financial Services.

5. A letter from the Secretary, Federal Trade Commission, transmitting a copy of the Commission's Report to Congress Under Sections 318 and 319 of the Fair and Accurate Credit Transactions Act of 2003; to the Committee on Financial Services.

6. A letter from the Chairperson, National Council on Disability, transmitting a report entitled, "Livable Communities for Adults with Disabilities," pursuant to 29 U.S.C.